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# SOCCER WORLD

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CONTINENTAL  
CHOCOLATES

Vol. 11, No. 45.

54 Renwick Street, Marrickville. — Tel.: 55-6877 November 22, 1968.

## Non-cruise may well wreck Pan Hellenic

— By PAUL DEAN —

Once again, internal strife threatens the stability of Pan Hellenic.

A former executive of the club is reportedly leading the camp of dissidents.

Last week's comical non-cruise has only highlighted some of the club's troubles.

A long planned six-week sea voyage offered to all players and their families was called off hours before the scheduled departure time.

All the players and their wives who were invited to join the fun had their smallpox and cholera vaccinations — including Ray Richards, the Hollandia star from Queensland who was to go along as a guest player.

Several players have lost not only money on their tour preparations — but also their jobs, as they had to give notice in order to go on the cruise.

Several players have been reported as keen to sue the club for damages.

One of the most amazing aspects of this fantastic bungle is that no Pan Hellenic official was even scheduled to go with the

players — and neither was coach Wally Tamandl.

It seems imperative that the NSW Executive order an immediate, full and honest investigation into the circumstances of this ill-fated tour.

Soccer's image was once again badly dented — something that's happening with monotonous regularity — and the code and all associated with it are subjects of public ridicule.

## Sydney refs may go to World Cup

Sydney referees Tony Boskovic and Harold Parsons have been nominated to represent Australia at the 1970 World Cup finals in Mexico.

The recommendation was made by Ken Aston, member of the FIFA Referees' Panel who visited Australia recently. This is a tremendous honor for the Australian

referees as a whole, not just the two men.

No Australian referee has ever participated in a World Cup final before.

Final selection of referees for the 1970 series will not be made until late next year.

But both Australians have a good chance of being on the final short-list.

Should Australia qualify for the final stages of the World Cup — a somewhat remote possibility — both Boskovic and Parsons could get to Mexico.

But even if we do get eliminated en route, at least one Australian is likely to whistle during the next World Cup.

## POOLS MAY HELP AUST. TO FLOAT

A multi-million business concern, operating from their Pitt Street, Sydney offices, plan to launch an Australia-wide football pools enterprise some time next year.

The headquarters would be based on the independent island of Nauru which enjoys tax privileges.

The concern, Pacific Sports Pools Ltd. will probably include soccer, rugby league and Australian rules matches in their coupons.

There is no doubt that all three codes will be offered generous terms for the use of their fixtures.

It is not expected that this enterprise would in any way interfere with Australia's long standing arrangement with the

combined British pools firms.

When the day comes to negotiate soccer's interests, the matter should be taken up by the Australian Soccer Federation, instead of all the States individually.

If the State Federations have only half as much vision as they would like to think they have, they will agree without the usual haggling to set a goodly portion of the expected fresh pool revenue aside for international team purposes.

## New League can't be glued together

— From BOB LOW in Melbourne —

If the proposed Inter-City league still gets off the ground and starts in 1969, as some of the organisers claim, it will be the biggest gamble ever undertaken in the history of Australian soccer.

It bristles with so many administrative and economic snags that to say it has any hope of succeeding is nothing more than mere wishful thinking.

Ill-timed and ill-prepared, it reeks of nationalism and is without real safeguards for those not invited to participate.

A venture so hastily and clumsily glued together has less than a "cat's chance in hell" of getting off the drawing board stage or winning the approval of both the State and National bodies.

I concede that Victorian soccer badly needs a "shot-in-the-arm" and especially at State League level.

I recognise also that any reformation of the State League or the implementation of an Inter-City League will undoubtedly be baulked to some extent by clubs who are quite content with their present lot.

These clubs can be just as big a problem as the over-ambitious ones.

No single club must be allowed to stand in the way of progress of the game — big or small.

In recent years it has been increasingly evident that the tail has been wagging the dog too much.

The VSF itself must recognise the need for a change in the set-up and should swing into action in conjunction with the NSW Federation at the earliest possible opportunity to plan on a broad and proper basis a presentable and acceptable scheme which will best serve the interests of the game in general.

## Top coaches go back to school

The Australian Coaches Federation will stage the first ever course for senior coaches in Sydney.

Twenty-four top coaches from all States will be invited to attend the week-long course which starts on January 5.

Nine lecturers will address the coaches on subjects of practical training, tactics, sports medicine and club management.

The course will be held at the Swedish Sports Centre, at North Ryde, which has absol-

utely modern facilities, including a floodlit ground, swimming pool, sauna bath and a large hall.

The coaches will live in for the week, in a nearby motel.

Much of the anticipated expenses are hoped to be defrayed through the generous help of the Rothmans Sports Foundation and State Federations will be approached to make up the difference.

The sum would probably ensure that we can send an Australian team overseas once a year and sponsor visits by other countries to Australia.

A scholarship scheme to send coaches and administrators overseas for study-tours may also become a financial possibility.

Unless, of course, we follow the well-worn path — and sitting down at the conference table we will carve up the revenue into tiny lots, hand it over to their Federations, who hand it over to their clubs, who hand it over to their players and who, in final turn, hand it over to their wives...

...so that all the money can land in furniture and frockshops in our capital cities...

## SECOND LAST ISSUE

This is our second last issue in 1968 — and, of course, next week's is the last.

In that we will announce our traditional selections for the best player, team, coach, etc. of the year.

SOCCER WORLD will reappear on January 17, two weeks before the Ampol Cup is scheduled to begin.

## WILL IT BE GOODBYE TO WILLIE?

Hakoah star Willie Rutherford may end up on the transfer list — only weeks after being hailed as the club's greatest gain in recent years.

The small Scottish butcher, according to Hakoah officials, "behaved poorly" on the recent New Caledonian tour.

During a heated argument the player has allegedly made some remarks clearly offensive to Hakoah officials.

A great number of Hakoah supporters and directors are reportedly wild over the incident.

They claim that regardless of his undoubted ability, Willie Rutherford must go — or they withdraw their financial support from the club.

Hakoah now face a major dilemma. If they release Willie, brother Harry may join him — and they lose two brilliant forwards.

If they whitewash the incident, they will antagonise some Hakoah members.

It is likely that Hakoah will let tempers cool for a while in the hope that some reconciliation may be affected.



# ... London ... Paris ... Mexico ...

## THE FRENCH DON'T KNOW OF THEIR AUSSIE TOUR...

— By LOU GAUTIER who has just returned from Paris. —

Jean Sadoul, president of the Groupement des Clubs Professionnels de Football Français — the French equivalent of the English League — knows nothing of a proposed tour of Australia next year by the French national team.

"This is the first I hear of it", he admitted when I approached him for some details in Paris last week.

"Are you sure it's the 'A' team?", he asked me.

"You may have your French teams mixed up because our amateur side was to have toured New Caledonia and Tahiti in July-August this year.

"This tour of the South Pacific was called off as a result of the nation-wide crisis which paralyzed every section of French life in May.

"I would not be surprised if it were indeed the French amateurs who planned to take in Australia in 1969 when they finally get to New Caledonia and Tahiti — one year late" — Sadoul said.

"The 'A' side, I can assure you, will not be undertaking any overseas tours for a long time, certainly not under the present situation of French professional soccer.

### SCARED!

"The FA, in conjunction with the 'Groupement', which represents the interests of the 39 professional French soccer clubs, has even called off hurriedly the national team's proposed visit to Mexico next month during the French championship's Christmas and New Year break.

"France at this stage cannot afford to allow its national team to undertake any tours abroad," Sadoul added. "Our professional players would be physically unable to do justice to French soccer.

"Beaten 1-0 by the very lowly rated Norwegians at home, how can you expect France to escape a hiding in Mexico — or even in Australia or New Caledonia for that matter!"

Believe it or not, Sadoul did in fact say that an Australian tour would be out of the question — even if it had been on the cards (which it wasn't as we saw earlier) — because the shocking state of the French national team wouldn't even guarantee a win over Australia.

Need I say that I didn't enlighten Sadoul on the pathetic state of affairs concerning our own national team, which in this regard has nothing to "envy" from its tragic French counterpart.

Tragic, indeed, is an apt word to describe the fate which has befallen the once proud French national team.

France's shock World Cup elimination round defeat in Strasbourg against Norway two weeks ago was the last straw which broke the back of the French soccer "camel" for good.

Despite the gradual deterioration of French soccer at pro. level since the heady days of June 1958 when France was third at the World Cup held in Sweden, soccer remains by far the most popular French sport.

### BLESSING

The crowds may have all but vanished, the national team and the French clubs may lose one international match after the other and the administration may be terrible, but for the Frenchman in the street, soccer is still THE sport.

The local press devotes pages and pages to soccer, the specialised soccer magazines are booming and just about every Frenchman is a soccer fan at heart.

And this, mind you, in a country in full soccer decadence!

The mind boggles at what it would be like would French soccer even remotely resemble its English, Italian or Spanish counterpart.

Jean Sadoul was the first to admit that France's loss to Norway was a blessing in disguise.

Though his own position as titular head of an utterly discredited organisation is threatened, he is lucid enough to see that eventually only "good" can come from this defeat which sent waves of shock and anger across the entire French nation.

This humiliating defeat has forced the French Government at long last to step into the picture.

After threatening for years to "take over" soccer if the FA didn't put its house in order, the long-awaited day is almost here now.

The French Ministry of Sports, which controls French amateur sport, announced in Paris last week it was immediately taking a long, hard look at professional soccer.

### SHAKE-UP

The Minister for Sport, Joseph Comiti, however, correctly pointed out that it was not the whole of French soccer which had to be shaken up, only the so-called professional elite — in France a tiny majority which, in fact, is not an elite at all, but the black sheep.

French soccer at the amateur and junior level is booming as never before.

There are 600,000 amateur and junior players, making France the fourth world soccer power in numbers of registered players after the Soviet Union, West Germany and Great Britain.

The results of the amateur (Olympic) team have been excellent for the past six years — only four defeats in 25 matches.

The French national junior XI has been in the very top European bracket since 1965, and in the past three weeks successively defeated Italy 1-0 at Treviso and Portugal 3-0 in Paris.

### MISGUIDED

But everything connected with professionalism in French soccer has been catastrophic since 1960!

The pampered pros — and their clubs — have now reached rock-bottom.

Things now cannot get any worse — they must improve, and improve they almost certainly will because the Ministry of Sport will reshuffle the entire professional set-up before the end of the current year.

At present the majority of the professional players — who are grouped into a formidable, influential union — are receptive to the Govern-

ment's plan for a take-over.

Their attitude is that any change must be for the better.

The clubs, of course, don't see it that way because it's not only in Australia that we have small, petty officials laboring under misguided delusions of grandeur.

The bulk of French and Australian club officials, I discovered, are brothers under the skin.

Neither can see beyond the next match, few have the necessary foresight to encompass the position of the sport as a whole.

There is one vast difference, however.

In France the Government has finally realised that in this competitive age of sport, a crack soccer national team is a must, and have started to make this a reality.

Even if it takes years, France will get there eventually — but will Australia ever?

## Cramer warns all about 1970 World Cup plans

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Together with FRANCE FOOTBALL's Tony Arbona, I was lucky enough to corner Dettmar Cramer at the end of the Olympic Games.

Over a few drinks at the well stocked bar of the Azteca Stadium, the West German coach, an official FIFA observer at the Olympic tournament, spoke about the lessons from the Games which could be learnt for the World Cup finals, which will be held also in Mexico in 18 months.

Cramer summed up the following points in an exclusive joint-interview for SOCCER WORLD and Paris' FRANCE FOOTBALL.

● **ALTITUDE**  
"I noticed that most teams weakened in the last 20 minutes, which seems to indicate that altitude is a problem the World Cup finalists will have to look into properly.

"Alf Ramsey agrees with me.

"He hopes to bring his England squad to Mexico at least for three weeks some time in 1969 and he would also like his players to arrive in Mexico at least 20 days before the kick-off of the series.

"All World Cup matches will be played at venues situated between 6,500 and 7,200 feet.

"On this count alone the Mexican team will be greatly advantaged."

### ● RECUPERATION

"Only 48 hours between round-robin matches won't be enough for players to recover.

"The rest period at the Olympics was not long enough. I'm convinced this is the reason why every team was unable to play two good matches in a row.

(Continued on page 4.)

## DOCHERTY ENDS HIS EXILE FROM CAPITAL

— From LESLIE PAGE in London —

The balance of power in English League football is mighty difficult to alter.

Those who arrive in Division One with high hopes and much courage, so often live to see the moment when previous glories mean nothing and dreams burst into a thousand fragments.

It happened with Northampton Town, it happened with Ipswich Town (although they became League Champions) and Orient's one campaign amongst the front-runners belongs in the nostalgia bracket.

Coventry City in their second Division One season struggle to maintain status, Ipswich are back again for another try which all leads us to Loftus Road and Queen's Park Rangers.

Rangers were the first club to make the climb from Division Three to Division One in two seasons since Charlton did it way back in the 1930s.

### LONG WAIT

All was merry and bright in West London as battling Q.P.R. began their initial Division One season.

A grand, new stand rose at their tiny ground and the rush for season tickets encouraged even the most fickle-hearted.

The sad facts remain that poor Rangers waited almost two months for their first victory in the senior section.

October 8 was the fortunate day and the team followed with another win a few days later.

It was not to last and back-stage, there were many whispering that Rangers, who won the League Cup when still members of Div-

ision Three, lacked the poise and polish to last in the big-time.

Before the season started, Alec Stock, who had seen the club all the way along the trail, became general manager and former Arsenal centre-half, Bill Dodgin, was promoted from trainer to team manager.

### STOCK SACKED

Alec Stock was forced into hospital with asthma and when he returned to his men, the club was slumped at the foot of the table with hardly anything going right.

They were not exactly being whipped, but the final punch was missing as many thought it might.

Suddenly, the news leaked out that Stock was to be relieved of his duties and rumors about his replacement flooded the news wires.

And who should come bounding back to London from his 13-months exile but Tommy Docherty, after spending just over a year with Rotherham whom he was unable to save from relegation last May.

Docherty, a highly controversial Scot, left Chelsea after the FA had slapped a 28-day ban on him for his comments about referees and others during Chelsea's tour of Bermuda in 1967.

Dodgin, unhappy about Stock's departure, went away to "consider his position" whilst Docherty swung into action with bold words, staking his reputation on keeping Rangers in the top set.

Those who admired Alec Stock over the years were

saddened by his dismissal, hoping he would not be lost to the game he has graced with considerable aplomb.

To an extent, the news can be linked with the farewell waved by Billy Gray, who led Millwall from Division Four to Division Two in two seasons and also had spells in the managerial chair at Brentford and Notts County.

After resigning at County, Gray vowed he would not seek further employment in soccer.

His playing days for Chelsea, Orient, Burnley and Nottingham Forest, plus his executive appointments, gave him some 25 years experience in the game.

### VOLATILE

He will now concentrate on his grocery business saying, "Neither the people on the terraces, nor the directors understand what it's all about."

Strangely, Millwall, whose crowds have been among the most volatile along the years, currently ride high in Division Two under the guiding hand of Benny Fenton.

The Football League Cup reaches the semifinal stages on November 20 and December 4.

Last year's losing finalists, Arsenal, who have just celebrated their 50th anniversary in Division One, meet their great North London rivals, Spurs, in one of the two-legged ties.

Both matches will be all-ticket and a two mile queue stretched round the High-

bury ground on Remembrance Sunday as fans put in their bid to gain admittance for the opening game.

Arsenal recently exchanged David Jenkins, for Spurs' winger, Jimmy Robertson, and the wires have gone cold on the legal angle associated with Estudiantes' withdrawal from fixtures against Arsenal and Birmingham, following the second-leg game at Old Trafford, against Manchester United.

The South American World Club Champs, refusing to complete other engagements, flew out saying they had been "instructed" not to compete further in the U.K.

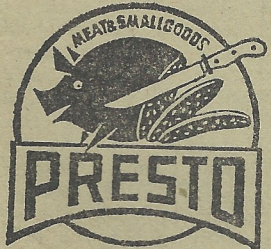
The other League Cup semifinal between Third Division Swindon Town and Burnley holds nearly as much interest as the London tie.

Burnley's young, energetic outfit is proving a galloping success this term with under - 23 international, Ralph Coates, making considerable strides towards the full England side.

Swindon, under Danny Williams, set a hot pace in Division Three with winger, Don Rogers, valued at around £100,000 refusing to move to a more highly esteemed outfit.

Malcolm Allison, Manchester United assistant manager, has been banned from sitting on the line for life after seven offences involving match officials and Middlesbrough manager, Stan Anderson, was fined for obscene remarks to a referee.

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# REVIEW OF SYDNEY TEAMS '68

— By PAUL DEAN —

Where can Hakoah go from here? The most they can hope for in 1969 is a repeat of their fantastic successes of this year.

But this will be hard. Much harder than most people think.

It's an old truth that it's easier to reach the top than to stay there.

Hakoah this year reached the very top; they won everything in our soccer calendar.

They lost only two competition matches (to APIA and Prague) but on an incredible 11 occasions, did not even concede a goal.

Four times the Hakoah forwards also stayed sterile — yet three of these matches still produced points as they were 0-0 draws.

Hakoah went through the competition using only 16 players — a sure sign of steadiness.

## EVER-PRESENT

Fuzes, Hillsdon, Marnoch and Yaager played in all 22 matches while Fekete, Baartz, Edmunds, Stewart, Jones and Watkiss appeared in most.

Hakoah's defence was by far the best in the business — especially when they found, in Fekete, a polished fullback.

Hillsdon started off well but lost form towards the end; he is one of the very few standard players who may be replaced within a season or two.

And here Hakoah should experience little difficulty: either Stewart or Gardiner may eventually take over.

Marnoch needs no introduction. This stopper, who won our "Player of the Year" award, was time and again the stumbling block to hopeful opponents.

Yaager, at left half, was the revelation of the season.

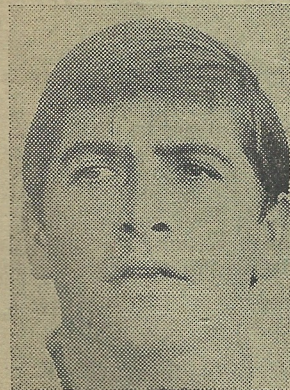
Improving with every match, Yaager gradually became Sydney's best linkman and an absolute certainty for future Australian caps.

His "arrival" has finally silenced those who doubted his value when Hakoah signed him.

## PRODIGAL SON

Admittedly, as a forward Yaager never got going — but Hakoah seems to specialise on converting average forwards into brilliant defenders.

Gardiner at right half had a sensational debut; this small 17-year-old Scot was one of the stars for about halfway through the season.



DANNY WALSH

Then somehow lost form — and lost his place in the team to prodigal son Danny Walsh who, especially in the vital play-off series, once again proved his immense value to the team.

Next year Hakoah will certainly have a problem whether to use Walsh or

Gardiner; one of them could be tried at fullback.

Fuzes in goal played in all matches and was replaced only once, with injury, by Wilson.

After an indifferent 1967 season Fuzes, now a fully fledged pharmacist, again proved himself to be one of the best in Sydney.

The forward line, despite scoring more goals than any other team, had many ups and downs.

Watkiss was absent for weeks and then Baartz was out of touch; when Watkiss finally came in, Baartz suffered an injury.



DOUG HOLDEN

Once these two can go through a full season together, Hakoah fans will have a lot to cheer about.

## WINGERS

Edmunds looked the better of the two original wingers — and yet Jones gained representative honours.

Edmunds possesses the greater dash and the more direct approach; in some of his matches, like against Prague (4-3) he was simply irresistible.

Jones is a bit too timid and inclined to hang back against the tougher type of fullbacks; his speed, on the other hand, is a tremendous asset.

Barnett's sole job was trying to get goals — and this he did to some extent.

Still, somehow he never blended into the team especially when skill was required.

At no stage did Barnett "harmonise" with his partners and, at his best, was a poor man's Hood.

## BONUSES

Towards the very end of the season Hakoah gained two unexpected bonuses with the arrival of the Rutherford brothers, Willie and Harry.

It didn't take them long to establish themselves as the new stars of the team — quite a brilliant right wing combination.

Harry on the wing should be Sydney's best in 1969 — possibly he is the best already.

As for little Willie, his speed with the ball, colossal acceleration and goal-grabbing ability could make him a State team star soon.

"Wee Willie," however, got himself into hot water with club officials during the recent New Caledonian

# HAKOAH'S TOUGH JOB IS TO KEEP AHEAD

tour and there are very strong rumors he may part company with Hakoah — a move both parties may dearly regret.

Of the others Stewart, Keddie and Spilarewicz played in a number of matches.

All three could be regular first team men in any other

team; here they had to languish in reserves.

Hakoah's is a tall order for 1969: to maintain their clear-cut superiority.

This season they were helped by the decline of APIA and St. George-Budapest, two of their stiffest rivals in the past.

But it's almost certain

that next year they will have much livelier opposition and possibly a tough challenge to their domination.

Even then, Hakoah should be confident enough to face the future.

They have a ready-made team in which the average standard of the players is the highest in Sydney; they also have, in Doug Holden,

a young, modern and highly successful coach.

Maybe it would be too much to expect that Hakoah will again make a clean sweep of all competitions in 1969.

But unless something goes drastically wrong with the team, they will win more than their fair share of honors.

# HELLENIC MAY HAVE STARTED A NEW ERA

This was the year of the Greeks. Spiro Agnew became America's vice president, Ari Onassis married Jackie Kennedy — and Pan Hellenic finished second in the Sydney championship.

Some success for the highly ambitious Greek club was very long overdue.

It's doubtful if there is another Sydney club which has spent more money and made greater effort over the years for less visible return.

Even now Pan Hellenic cannot claim having won anything, cup or competition — but in 1968 they came very close to it.

It would be too convenient to give all the credit for their outstanding year to one man, Takis Loukanidis.

This former Athenian ace did play a big part in Hellenic's fine run — and an even greater part in filling their coffers.

His importation was a masterful move by Pan Hellenic, involving a great financial risk.

## BIG GAMBLE

But the gamble paid off beautifully — and not only Pan Hellenic profited but also those who had the good fortune of playing them as hosts.

However, Loukanidis played in only nine competition matches out of the 22 and even at the time of his fan-fared arrival, Pan Hellenic were very much in the running for honors.

Eventually they chalked up a very respectable record losing only four times (twice to Prague) and keeping their net intact on nine occasions.

An unusually high number of players, five, appeared in all their 22 games: Hignett, McCulloch, Westwater, Blitz and Karyannis while Johnston, Smith, Cole and Clarke could also be called regulars.

Pan Hellenic's player strength, to be brutally frank, was only very average.



DAVE JOHNSTON

In fact, Walter Tamandl, their coach, achieved more with what he had than most people would have thought possible.

And yet some sections within the club would like to have him replaced — a short-sighted and ungrateful move, if ever there was one.



JOHN COLE

Tamandl, during his two spells with Pan Hellenic, always performed well — and not once did he have real championship material at his disposal.

It would be interesting to see just what this underrated coach could do with, let's say, Hakoah.

What did Tamandl have?

A tough, though rather slow and at times very shaky defence.

## EFFICIENT

Clarke in goal was no better or worse than average; Pan Hellenic have yet to unearth a really top custodian. Until then, Clarke should fill the bill.

On its day, Pan Hellenic's immediate defence did an efficient job — especially when held together by the experienced Cole.

Left fullback Hignett appealed to us the most even though it was Johnston who received more kudos.

However, both Cole and Johnston have one serious weakness: their relative immobility and slow turning.

In McCulloch and Westwater one finds the two linchpins of the team.

It was largely these two who held the team together when under pressure — and

hurled the forwards into attack.

McCulloch's improvement in 1968 was considerable and it wouldn't surprise to see him in the run for representative honors.

## SMITH'S YEAR

Westwater, whenever playing deep, was his effective self; as a forward, he never failed to prove what a fine winghalf he is...

Hellenic's forward line in 1968 was largely built on the lung capacity of one man — Brian Smith.

After a few years of obscurity, Smith recaptured his former brilliant form and on many occasions was the sole Pan Hellenic forward to speak of.

Blitz's performances, as usual, varied between the scintillating and the shocking.

Still, on the whole, he was the only other Pan Hellenic forward of value.

The others were below par. Karyannis missed ten times more than he bagged, Petrou is painfully slow and Kakakios far too hasty.

Maglis, Mallard, Henson, Patrinos and Laraman played only a few games without



BRIAN SMITH

ever threatening to replace the regulars while Omeros has reached the veteran stage.

Of the youngsters Byles looked the best long range bet though Vrolyks and John Smith should also improve.

## DISAPPOINTMENT

Loukanidis, despite the adulation received, was by and large a disappointment — taking his fantastic reputation into fair consideration.

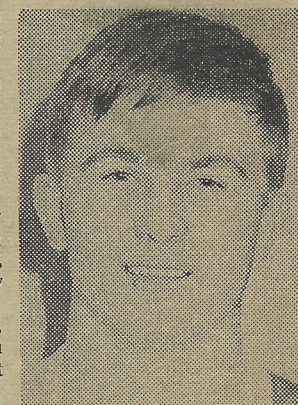
Nobody denies his skill, finesse and experience — but

his fitness was questionable and his understanding with other key players, especially Westwater and Blitz, was often pathetic.

Loukanidis at times tried to force his style on the other 10 — and got disheartened when he predictably failed.

Pan Hellenic are still not the team a soccer purist dreams about; their style is haphazard, lacking in subtleties and thought.

They tend to play bravura football, all or nothing, storming the opponents' goal with mad determination — and leaving themselves open to quick counter-punches.



ALLAN WESTWATER

But this is their style and this, obviously, is what's demanded by the temperament of their fans.

After an early season turbulence, Pan Hellenic managed to streamline their administration only to end the year on a shameful note with the now infamous "cruising follies" — one of the greatest blots ever on any soccer club's administration.

But there is no doubt that in 1969 Pan Hellenic will again strive for top stakes.

If they can reinforce their team in some vital positions, they may even succeed.

— PAUL DEAN

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## VICTORIAN REVIEW — PART 2

## BIG MONEY COULDN'T HELP AILING JUVENTUS

— By BOB LOW —

Broken hopes, unexpected crises and hard-luck stories characterise the affairs of some of those seven Victorian State League clubs who took little part in the title race in the 1968 season.

## GEORGE CROSS

After two dismal seasons George Cross looked like they were going places by topping the league well into the season — until they ran into trouble.

The management, deciding quite openly that the problems which were monetary and were not justified, showed in no uncertain manner the club rules the players and not vice versa.

Their action in transferring and suspending players who stepped out of line had probably some effect on their subsequent decline.

But at least the club maintained their principle that no player is bigger than the club.

A half-way position on the league ladder was obviously disappointing but a decided improvement on the two previous years.

The George Cross star was undoubtedly goal grabbing centre-forward and striker Nick McCallum who not only accounted for almost half their league goals but finished up highest individual scorer in the State League.

Goalie Lou Kastener, now gone to England, and full-back Tommy Ferguson were the pick of the others.

Coach for the past two seasons, Mike De Bruyckere has now left the club.

## WILHELMINA

Back in the State League after one season "downstairs" in the First Division, the Ringwood team caused a considerable impact from the start when they slammed Juventus.

They continued to play a productive brand of soccer all season and Jubilee Park, their home ground, was a graveyard for most of those who visited there.

In attack, however, they found goalscoring much harder in the State League than they had done the previous year in the First Division and some lack of steadiness in this department cost them more than a few points.

No player came through the season with higher honors than Bobby Adams at centre-half.

The former Hakoah and George Cross pivot was in immense form for most of the year and played better than he had ever done with his former clubs.

In goal, Nick Van Egmond, a son of a former Wilhelmina 'keeper, played a key role while defender Bobby Thomson, an experienced league player from England, had a steadying influence on the side.

Coach was Jan Bens who has returned to Holland.

## SLAVIA

Since winning the Australia Cup five years ago and in the interim winning the Dockerty Cup three times, the Ampol Cup once and usually occupying an elevated position on the league ladder, Slavia have been acknowledged as one of the top club sides not only in Victoria, but in Australia.

With forward problems all season, the first blow was

struck when ace 'keeper, Willem Schroif packed up and returned to Europe after disagreement with the club.

Almost on top of this centre-half Billy Cook, a tower of strength for five years with the side, was forced out of action through a cartilage operation and late in the season new full-back Alan McBain, who promises to be an outstanding defender, also was forced into temporary retirement with a neck injury.

Of the others, Alan Reed played well both in defence and attack while Tadeus Kraus who replaced Schroif as player-coach turned in some sterling performances in the latter stages of the season.

## JUVENTUS

League runners-up in 1967, Juventus tumbled so badly that they forfeit their place in the 1969 night soccer.

Biggest money spenders in 1968 by buying Tommy-Mc Coll from Juventus-Adelaide, Bob Connelly from Melbourne and Jock Goodwin from Slavia, the club had every reason to feel sore when McColl returned to South Australia early in the season and then only reappeared in their last few games.

A goalkeeping problem, the need for an experienced centre-half and inconsistent wingers plus lack of real teamwork highlight the shortcomings of Juventus.

Three coaches in one season, Mario Corti, David McIntosh and in the late stages Manny Poulakos obviously had an unsettling effect on the players.

## MELBOURNE

Now the mighty have fallen! State League Champions and Australia Cup winners in 1968, it was only in the closing stages of the season that they made their status secure for next year.

The transfer of Connelly to Juventus lost them an ace link-man, who was always dangerous and played a key role in their success of 1967.

They were plagued by injuries to 'keepers Henri Surma and Tommy Gerrard, wing-half Alistair Scott and several more.

Never at any time during the year did they look capable of producing anything near the form they had shown in the previous season and with striking forwards, Ottie Abonyi and Colin Myers out of touch for part of the season, their attack had as much kick as a dead mule.

Only Alan Sefton at centre-half and Bill McGowan at fullback were worthy of mention.

## FOOTSCRAY JUST

Reviewing the 1968 night soccer competition few would have tipped this lot to win the title or win any of the cups.

By the same token thousands would have gambled that JUST would not be struggling until almost the last minute of the season.

It was closer than a whisker that JUST escaped the

hatchet and only the fact that they brought three players late from Yugoslavia saved their bacon.

What went wrong with JUST cannot be answered from the outside.

As with Melbourne, the Footscray side were slated for late signings which, however, were within the rules.

The quartet who did most to pull them out of the rut were fullback Roger Handricks, centre half Billy Rice, winger Andrew Kazi and inside forward Cora Buljevic.

Player-coach Cedo Cirakovic was replaced as coach during the season by Ollie Norris.

## ALEXANDER

Even well into the second half of the season Alexander occupied a middle of the table position and looked anything like a side who would be relegated.

However, despite spending a small fortune by bringing several newcomers from Greece, they collapsed in the last seven games, going from bad to worse until the outcome was almost inevitable.

Relegation is not only a blow to Alexander but to the other clubs, as one of the four playing at Olympic Park, they topped the attendance polls by quite a bit.

## Cramer warns all about 1970 World Cup plans

● Continued from page 2.

"At high altitude, players' recuperative capacities are much slower — this was most evident at the Games, even with superior teams like Hungary and Bulgaria, and even more significant, Mexico, the host nation, whose players also suffered from playing too much too quickly without sufficient rest.

"Instead of two days between matches, there should be at least four full days.

"As I was in Mexico as an official FIFA observer, I shall recommend this to the world body, but with little hope of success because the Mexican FA will never agree to spread the very costly series over another two weeks.

"As a result, the public will be the one to suffer, because top class football will be impossible under such conditions.

"I don't think it was a coincidence that the Olympic standard was so poor — the worst I've seen in an international competition, Asian Games included, may I add!"

## ● KICK-OFF TIME

"The World Cup final matches will be played from May 31 to June 21 — right in the midst of Mexico annual heatwave.

"Yet, the organisers have refused to stage the matches at night, but have planned for 4.30 p.m. kick-offs when the heat will still be stifling and temperatures in the mid 90's at kick-off time.

"The heat, combined with the altitude, will, I am sure, play havoc with players' forms and you can expect even greater upsets than at the Olympic Games.

"I'm no prophet of doom, but must warn one and all to expect a topsy-turvy World Cup series."

## ● PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT

"Since teams will have to stay at least together for eight weeks while they acclimatize and play their World Cup matches, their psychological approach will be vital because no one can retain a 'fighting' frame of mind and spirit that long.

"I advice team managers and selectors to be very careful when they choose their World Cup squads.

"Talent won't be enough. Players' moral qualities and aptitude will be more important.

"Only the psychologically fittest will survive.

"Pretty football will be out, and even more so than in England, the tough, gutsy teams, will come to the fore."

## ● FOOD

"It will be essential for each team to bring their own chefs.

"Not only their own chefs, but also their own ingredients as Mexican food of any kind will upset the Europeans' sensitive stomachs."

## ● PUBLIC

"I liked the Mexican public.

"Lively, noisy and colorful, it knows its soccer and is very demanding.

"Good moves from every team are always applauded and the players rise to the occasion because all feel appreciated.

"The Mexican public, however, hates to be cheated and its love can turn to cold, merciless fury within seconds, even against its own players.

"Public-wise, there should not be a dull moment at the 1970 World Cup."

After having given his very interesting, authoritative views on the 1970 World Cup, Cramer looked back on the Olympic Tournament.

## ● TOP PLAYER

"More than the actual series, I was vastly impressed with one player — Lajos Szucs of Hungary.

"He'll certainly be back in 1970 with his country's World Cup team, and could again be one of the stars.

"At 25, Szucs looks like the next great European star. In my book he is already the Number One Hungarian player."

"Kamamoto was the No. 2 Olympic player in my book — and I can't tell you how pleased I am he revealed himself to the world at large because in many ways he is my protege."

## READERS' LETTERS

Your article entitled "Inter-City league or conspiracy?" by Paul Dean was excellent and good to add stability to soccer.

But to merely fine the six clubs \$100 and leave it at that is mockery.

The State Executive should show strength right now — show clubs that it runs the code and not the clubs.

The delegates who attended this illegal conference should be disqualified for three years and their clubs warned about the future.

Any moves should come before the properly constituted body for discussion.

If this National League did operate in 1969 — what would happen to the other six clubs which were deserted, dumped and thrown to the wolves by the few cranks who would love to see another breakaway?

Soccer in NSW has had three major breakaways — 1928, 1943, 1957 — and the code has suffered in the eyes of the sporting public and press and its progress retarded.

A National League would be ideal if it could pay — here I think the Australian Federation should appoint a Commission to hear all the evidence and issue a report — or majority and minority reports, if members of the commission cannot agree.

I feel that Paul Dean should be the president — along with two Sydney and two Melbourne authorities not directly interested in club organisation.

This plus the recent boyish attitude of the NSW and Victorian delegates to the Australian Federation clearly indicates that soccer needs an administration that controls the clubs.

"Ex-Celtic fan",  
Young Street,  
Annandale.

## MUTE CLUBS

I take my hats off to SOCCER WORLD, which, together with the "Sydney Sun", is the only voice in the present soccer wilderness that dares call a spade a spade.

Your last week's issue in which you factually described the latest upheavals was magnificent.

While it paints a realistically dark picture of the type of leadership we have, it also offers some hope for the future by at least pinpointing the terrible shortcomings of our administration.

I was present as an observer at the annual general meeting — and fully endorse your report.

What does pain me, however, is that so many club delegates with the right to dissent sit through the night like frightened little lambs.

Wish your Paul Dean

would join a club in order to be able to speak at such occasions.

H. J. Furber,  
Vaucluse.

● He just might. — Editor.

## BOOT AND ALL

I cannot understand why do you get so heated about happenings in the NSW Federation.

I fully agree that Polonia, Yugal and Canterbury should be axed as they contribute nothing to soccer's future.

The same, more or less, can be said about Prague and Croatia and others.

It would have been a progressive step to get rid of them and give some district clubs a go.

Who cares whether it's constitutional or not?

A. Powers,  
Sutherland.

● We do. — Editor.

## DISGRACEFUL

What a disgrace this Pan Hellenic club has committed by cancelling its much publicised cruise in the last minute.

Is that how they intend to keep faith with their players? To call off the cruise hours before sailing — because they didn't fix up enough matches?

It's no use complaining about players lacking in club loyalties; I wouldn't trust a club like this as far as I can throw them.

Cases like this make me wish more than ever that there was a competent Players' Union like the one we have in England and Scotland to deal with clubs that act this way.

A. Macauley,  
Bondi.

## Foot-tennis

The Prague pair of Joe Venglos and Les Scheinflug last Monday night took out first prize of \$160 in the second series of the popular foot-tennis competition sponsored by the St. George-Budapest Soccer Club.

Venglos and Scheinflug scored a decisive 21-19, 21-17, 21-19 win in the final over Tibor Zuckerman and Les Schaubman, who shared \$80.

Third prize-money was won by Clarke and Hardy, who defeated Schaefer and Stegbauer in the "consolation" final.

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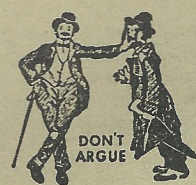
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# A goal in need is a real friend indeed

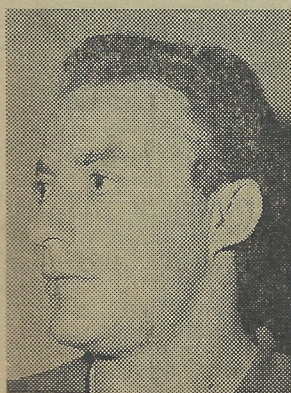
— By PAUL DEAN —

**Law \$250,000 ... Anastasi \$400,000 ... and one day somebody \$1,000,000.**  
**And all this for strikers, goal-getters, scorers.**

We can talk about systems, midfield links, zone defences, wave attacks, overlaps, grafters and God knows what — but football is still about goals, and goals are harder to get than ever before.

Consequently, clubs all over the world fall over one another in making astronomical bids for players who have that happy knack of getting goals.

Nobody cares how they get them: a goal is a goal whether it's elegantly pushed into the corner or accidentally kneed under the bar. As long as it goes in.



**JOHNNY GIACOMETTI**  
(APIA)

There are few team in Sydney which assess the value of their forwards on their goal-getting abilities. What if they did?

Taking only those players into consideration who have played at least 11 of the 42 championship matches, the most valuable forward, on his "goal ratio," would be — Ray Cush from Croatia: 14 matches and 9 goals or a rate of 0.64 goal per match.

He would be followed by another Ray — Baartz of Hakoah: 18/11, for 0.61.

(The first number indicates the matches, the second the goals scored).

The joint top scorers of 1968, Alston and McGarry only rate at 0.54 — behind Giacometti and Edwards of Yugal whose ratings are 0.57 and 0.55 respectively.

This is the top listing:  
 R. Cush (Croatia) 14/9 = 0.64

Baartz (Hakoah) 18/11 = 0.61

Giacometti (APIA) 19/11 = 0.57

Edwards (Yugal) 20/11 = 0.55

Alston (S. Coast) 22/12 = 0.54

McGarry (S. Coast) 22/12 = 0.54

Thorne (Melita) 15/8 = 0.53

Smith (P. Hellenic) 21/11 = 0.52

Cliss (St. George) 17/9 = 0.51

G. Manuel (Prague) 17/9 = 0.51

Campbell (APIA) 16/8 = 0.50

Kulak (Polonia) 17/8 = 0.47

Watkins (Hakoah) 15/7 = 0.46

Karyannis (P. Hellenic) 22/10 = 0.45

Krawiarz (Polonia) 20/9 = 0.45

Reynolds (Croatia) 20/9 = 0.45

Paxinos (Canterbury) 18/8 = 0.44

If you include all players, Prague's young Wilcox is the undisputed leader with a rate of 2.00 — two goals in his only match ...

APIA's Wentzel would follow him with 1.00 — two goals in two matches ...

There is a surprising number of players who have made only few appearances — yet got among the goals. These include:

Guerrero (Croatia) 7/4,

McGrath (S. Coast) 5/3,

Urbaniak (Polonia) 5/3,

Petrou (Pan Hellenic) 7/4,

Lowry (Prague) 6/3, Spil-

arewicz (Hakoah) 7/6,

Keddie (Hakoah) 6/3.

Some players in 1968 managed to increase their scoring ratio.

Amazingly enough, the majority of these are Australian-born forwards: Ed-

wards, Campbell, Baartz, Smith and R. Cush, apart from Paxinos, Cliss and Reynolds.

Ray Cush went up in one year from 22/3 to 14/9 —

or from 0.13 to 0.64 goals per match.

Yugal's Edwards improved from 20/4 to 20/11 — 0.20 to 0.55.

Campbell last year was not really in the goals with 22/5, a mediocre 0.22; now he is 0.50.

These have been his yearly tallies: 15/9, 22/11, 18/9, 15/6, 15/7 — and in 1968 14/0 — not one goal.

Karyannis of Pan Hellenic is also losing his scoring value: his 22/10 in 1968 was a poor effort compared with his 19/15 the year before.

Strangely, the scoring potential of some players changes a great deal from championship matches to cup or semifinal ties.

APIA's young McKinnon's championship ratio was only 21/2 — and in cups and semifinals a healthy 10/5.

Keddie, also of APIA, had only 6/1 in the championship yet 8/4 in other matches.

The two St. George forward stars, Warren and Schauman did very badly in the championship with 17/2 and 11/1 respectively — and rather well with 7/5 and 7/6 in the Ampol Cup.

So did Gauto of Prague whose 12/5 in cups and semifinals is far superior to his 17/2 in the championship.

Or take Laraman of Pan Hellenic who in six championship games didn't score once — yet netted five in seven Cup games.

Young Wilcox of Prague has shown tremendous scoring potential; two goals in his only championship match — and three more in four cup and semifinal outings.

Hakoah's sensational Rutherford brothers didn't play in the championship — but scored freely in the semis and Australia Cup: Harry had 6/4, Willie had 5/4.

And last but not least, there's Terry Thorne's case.

With Prague he scored 10 goals in seven Ampol Cup matches — quite a fantastic goal run.

In the championship, by then with Melita, he went down to 15/8.

How about little Fernandez, also of St. George? Since his arrival in 1963,

he has scored 12/1 in 1968 compared with his 22/10 in 1967 and 17/6 in 1966; he must have mislaid his scoring boots.

So did Warren of St. George whose 17/2 is a big comedown after his 19/16 in 1967 or 16/12 the year before that.

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**DENNIS ALSTON**  
(South Coast)

Brian Smith's basic role is, not that of a scorer, yet in 1968 he had his best year with 21/11; his previous best was in 1964 when he had 22/10, or 0.45.

Or take Reynolds from Croatia who scored only 7 in 1967 — and none in 1966 in 19 and 15 matches respectively; now he went up to 20/9.

Some players keep to a certain level; Campana, for example, scored five in each of the last three seasons.

A few went down — dramatically so.

Blue of APIA had 12/1 in 1968 compared with his 22/10 in 1967 and 17/6 in 1966; he must have mislaid his scoring boots.

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## Smalltalk

Pardon me for a quiet chuckle — but the temptation is irresistible.

Pan Hellenic's cancelled Pacific cruise was not just a deep embarrassment to the club itself — but also a forceful slap in the face for those who, only very recently, tried to build an entire intercity league on this wobbly cornerstone.

Held up as paragons of all soccer virtues, Pan Hellenic have managed to bring soccer into public ridicule once again.

Certainly the damage is infinitely greater to the code than one club or another owing a damned bank a few thousand dollars — for which the death sentence was recently demanded.

Somebody cracked that as all the players were vaccinated for the sea voyage, at least Pan Hellenic are sure now that there won't be a cholera outbreak in their team.

The kind of joke that makes you seasick...

A cynic remarked that once NSW and Victoria make their peace with the ASF, we can look forward to at least 16 months of relative peace and quiet on the national front.

The new rumpus is not scheduled to break until about May 1970. That's when the next FIFA Congress will be held.

It will be interesting to see whether the increased admission charges next season will deter any spectators from watching matches.

Some clubs already begin to have second thoughts about the matter.

A trifle late, one should say: the matter was passed at the annual general meeting only two weeks ago.

Hakoah, it seems, are getting tough with players who fall out of line. They even sent brilliant young inside man Willie Rutherford home from New Caledonia.

We believe he is facing a suspension. He won't be allowed to play in cup or competition matches before the end of January.

We hear that a leading light in the Federation held a successful barbecue last Saturday week.

Rumor has it that a breakaway barbecue is planned in the near future.

You can talk yourself hoarse but nobody will listen: nothing is being done about the national team's program for 1969. Next year, let us remind you, Australia will have to play Japan, among other countries, in World Cup elimination matches.

But just at the moment the subject seems to be a bore. Next October, however, when the managership of the team will be decided, there will be a queue from here to Parramatta for the job...

— MIKE RENWICK

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## HOT SEATS MAY BURN OFF SOME

— From BOB LOW in Melbourne —

The hot seat of Melbourne State League soccer is undoubtedly that occupied by coaches. At the end of this season those in command of the clubs were:

- CROATIA: Michael Kiss
- POLONIA: Kaz Kowalec (player-coach)
- SM HELLAS: Ron Saweck
- HAKOAH: Bill Walsh
- LIONS: Peter Aldis (player-coach)
- GEORGE CROSS: Mike de Bruyckere
- RINGWOOD CITY: Jan Bens
- SLAVIA: Tadeus Kraus (player-coach)
- JUVENTUS: Manny Poulakakis
- MELBOURNE-HSC: Bert Gereets
- JUST: Ollie Norris
- ALEXANDER (relegated): Johnny Margarites (player-coach)
- BOX HILL (promoted): Peter Craig (player-coach)

Of this list, Peter Aldis and Mike de Bruyckere have parted company with their clubs while Jan Bens has returned to Holland.

More are likely to fall either through being sacked or resigning before the 1969 Ampol Cup starts.





## ROUND THE WORLD

### BRAZIL'S WIN

More than 110,000 people saw in Rio's Maracana Stadium Brazil's anniversary match against a FIFA XI. The match was won by Brazil 2-1 (1-1), scoring the winning goal in the last second.

The game was played in fine spirit — despite the fact that the referee was the same Mexican-Italian Diego di Leo who was in charge of the Mexico Olympic final.

The Brazilians, naturally, played with greater cohesion than the FIFA team that held only one training session together. Rivelino scored Brazil's first goal in the second minute and Albert equalised in the 33rd. The winning goal was scored by Tostao.

These were the teams:

**Brazil:** Picasso-Carlos Alberto (Moreira), Juran-dir, Everaldo, Rivelino, Dias, Gerson, Natal (Paulo Borges), Jairzinho (Tostao), Pele, Paulo, Cesar.

**FIFA:** Yashin (USSR), Mazurkiewicz, Uruguay), Novak (Hungary), Sest-ernev (USSR), Schulz (W. Germany), Marzolini (Arg.), Perfumo (Arg.), Beckenbauer, Overath (both W. Germ.), Szucs (Hungary), Amancio (Spain), Metreveli (USSR), Albert (Hung.), Rocha, (Uruguay), Dzajic (Yug.), Farkas (Hung.).

### Gallic shock

The victory of the largely amateur Norwegians over France at Strasbourg in a World Cup elimination match (1-0) was undoubtedly the shock of the year. France will now have to pull off a near-miracle to qualify as they would have to beat Norway in Oslo and Sweden in Stockholm.

### World Cup dates

Forthcoming World Cup elimination matches: Rumania v. Switzerland, Nov. 23; Cyprus v. West Germany, Nov. 23; Elre v. Denmark, Dec. 1; Greece v. Portugal, Dec. 11; Turkey v. Northern Ireland, Dec. 11; Spain v. Belgium, Dec. 11. All other matches in the eight European groups will be played in 1969.

### Kocsis remembered

Three years after his retirement, former star and ex-Hungarian idol Sándor Kocsis received a benefit match from his grateful club, CF Barcelona. For the occasion the club got together its former "golden team" with such players as Foncho, Gracia, Verges, Segarra, Tejada, Martinez, Kubala and Czibor. More than 60,000 turned up for the match — and all the gate takings went to Kocsis.

### Belgian gain

Standard Liege of Belgium have as their best forward Hungarian Antal Nagy who escaped from Budapest over a year ago and had to sit on the sideline during his FIFA suspension. Nagy was a Hungarian "B" international and a regular with Honved.

### Hajduk's plans

The manager of Hajduk in Yugoslavia, former all-time great Bernard Vukas said recently he was hopeful of signing two new players for next season, stopper Vasovic, now with Ajax Amsterdam and Lalic, from the Yugoslav Celik.

### Neck to neck

With five rounds to go, the Hungarian championship race is now between Ujpest and Ferencvaros, sharing the lead by three points from Vasas. Both are in tremendous form: in the last round Ferencvaros won 3-0 and Ujpest scored a fantastic nine — four of them by Bene who, just like Albert in Ferencvaros, is in top form. Chief relegation candidates are Szeged, Videoton and Diosgyor. It's already known that Eger and Komlo will be promoted.

**O**mar Sivori hasn't played a match yet this season for Napoli — and is furious with his coach Chiapella. Why? Because Sivori is under a special contract and in order to qualify for his huge annual signing-on fee, he must play in at least one match. Last year, after very rare appearances, it was worked out that Sivori earned some 6 million lire per match . . .

● FIFA has acted on the four players sent off in the Olympic final: Christov (Bulgaria) cannot play in any international for one year while Dimitrov, Ivkov (both Bulgaria) and Juhasz (Hungary) cannot take part in two internationals.

● Since the start of the season, the Belgian Standard Liege were awarded seven penalties in their seven matches.

● Four Yugoslav clubs are preparing for an overseas tour: Red Star, Partizan, OFK Belgrade and Dynamo Zagreb will all tour South America shortly.

● Since its start in 1963, the Bundesliga's top goal scorer has been Lothar Emmerich of Borussia Dortmund, with 115 goals at last count.

● Hamburger SV is a cautious club: it had all its players vaccinated against flu which is rampant in winter months in Northern Germany.

● Rudi Gutendorf, the German coach who visited Australia with Stuttgart a few years ago, left his American club St. Louis Stars, and accepted the position of national coach in Honduras.

● The only Italian-born player now in the English League is Manchester United's talented young Carlo Sartori.

● The Turkish Fenerbahce are keen to engage a top English coach and have approached Bury's Les Shannon.

● Non-Leaguers Altrincham may sign ex-Manchester United star Dennis Viollet, one of the many players who recently returned to Britain from the USA.

● Other returnees from the USA include ex-Manchester United man Fred Goodwin and former Millwall star Len Julians.

● Sheffield Wednesday's recently signed Scot, Archie Irvine is out for a month with a dislocated left elbow.

● Yugoslav clubs want a bigger share of their pool moneys — or they will refuse to provide fixture lists in advance. The pools in Yugoslavia are state-run.

● Partick of Scotland have signed Alex McCall, 20, who until recently played with Kansas City Spurs, one of the clubs that folded up in the USA.

● Eusebio made good use of his recent three-week suspension: he attended the christening of his daughter, Carla. The godfather was old pal Mario Coluna.

### Varga in Belgium

Zoltan Varga, the brilliant Hungarian star who defected just before the Olympics in Mexico, is reportedly in Belgium. FIFA has not yet announced the period of his suspension but it's likely to be at least one year, after which he can play where he likes — and "sell" himself to the highest bidder.

● New Italian star Anastasi is the anti-favorite of the Italian press: he never gives interviews and never keeps appointments.

● Jackie Charlton won't be available to play for the English League against the Northern Irish League on November 27, at Belfast because his team, Leeds, will play the same day against Napoli in the Fair Cities' Cup.

● FIFA had insured each player who took part in the match against Brazil for a sum of \$100,000 against crippling injury.

● The Greek FA promised a bonus of \$5,000 to each player if they qualify for the 1970 World Cup finals. The next test: against Portugal on December 11, in Athens.

● Club before country... The West German Bayern Munchen has asked for a compensation of \$1,500 for letting their Austrian stars, Starek and Pumm — play for Austria.

● The Yugoslav national team will play in Brazil next month. On the way they would like to play a match in Spain.

● Britain's most expensive player, Alan Clarke of Leicester, was recently sent off in the match against Burnley.

● Jim Baxter, the great Scottish wing half, wants to leave Sunderland.

● The English FA wants to start a "Hall of Fame" for great footballers. The first nominee is, of course, Bobby Charlton.

● Alick Jeffrey's nine-year old son is quickly making a name for himself in a junior league in Doncaster.

● Raymond Goethals, manager of Belgium, considers Spain and not Yugoslavia as his country's toughest hurdle on the way to the 1970 World Cup finals.

● Sekularac is again in trouble: the veteran ex-international Yugoslav star was recently sent off when his team, OFK Belgrade lost 0-2 to Red Star.

● Lajos Tichy, the former Hungarian international, is making a come-back with his team, Honved, after a two-year lay-off through injury.

● It cost the Brazilian Federation (CBD) about £100,000 to pay for the airfares and expenses of the players who appeared in the FIFA team against Brazil last week.

### Early refusals

Next year the Yugoslav FA will celebrate its 50th anniversary. For the occasion they have issued preliminary invitations to several top countries for friendly internationals. Two, Brazil and Italy, have already refused . . .

### Eastham on shelf

Former England star George Eastham would like to leave Stoke City. The club has willingly agreed to put him on transfer — but so far nobody has made inquiries about his services. Reason: Eastham's high demands.

### Without break-away

A special League Commission will present this week a detailed plan to introduce Second Division in the German Bundesliga — in 1971-72. The Commission has been working on the plan for the last three years. Australian National League admirers please note.

## SCOREBOARD

**EUROPEAN CUP — Second round (first leg):** AEK Athens (Greece) v. Akademisk (Denmark) 0-0; Manchester United v. RSC Anderlecht (Belgium) 3-0; Glasgow Celtic v. Red Star Belgrade (Yugoslavia) 5-1; Ajax Amsterdam (Holland) v. Fenerbahce (Turkey) 2-0.

**EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP:** Dinamo Bucharest (Rumania) v. West Bromwich Albion 1-1; Dunfermline Athletic v. Olympiakos Piraeus (Greece) 4-0; Freja Randers (Denmark) v. Sliema Wanderers (Malta) 5-0; Porto (Portugal) v. Slovan Bratislava (Czechoslovakia) 1-0.

**INTER-CITIES' FAIRS CUP:** Hansa Rostock (East Germany) v. Fiorentina (Italy) 3-2; Leeds United v. Napoli (Italy) 2-0; Hibernian (Scotland) v. Locomotive Leipzig (East Germany) 3-1; Dundalk (Ireland) v. Glasgow Rangers 0-3 (Rangers won 9-1 on aggregate); Lyons (France) v. Vitoria Setubal (Portugal) 1-2; (Setubal won 7-1 on aggregate).

**BELGIUM:** FC Liege v. Daring Brussels 0-0; Racing White v. St. Gilloise 1-1; Anderlecht v. Standard Liege 0-0; Lierse v. Beeringen 2-0; La Gantoise v. Waregem 2-1; FC Brugse v. Beveren Waas 2-0; St. Trond v. Charleroi 3-1; Beerschot v. RC Malines 8-2.

**BULGARIA:** Levski v. Botev 2-0; Dounav v. CSKA 0-2; Mineur v. Dobrudja 2-1; Cernomore v. Lok. Sofia 2-0; Plovdiv v. Beroe 1-0; Spartak Plevan v. Trakia 2-1; Marek v. Slavia 1-2; Sp. Sofia v. Cernom. Burgos 1-1. **Table:** CSKA 17, Levski 15, Plovdiv, Slavia 13 pts.

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA:** Ostrava v. Trnava 0-0; Sparta v. Slovan 2-0; Teplice v. Pardubice 3-0; Trencin v. Lokomotive 5-2; Inter v. Dukla 3-3; Zilina v. Banska 1-0; Kosice v. Slavia 2-1. **Table:** Trnava, Ostrava 11, Kosice, Trencin 10 pts.

**EAST GERMANY:** Halle v. Rostock 1-1; Union Berlin v. Vorwaerts 0-2; Magdeburg v. Riesa 3-1; Dinamo v. Karl-Marxstadt 1-0; Jena v. Leipzig 3-0; Chemie v. Erfurt 2-0; Wismut v. Zwickau 0-0. **Table:** Vorwaerts, Rostock 17, Magdeburg 16 pts.

**FRANCE:** Nantes v. Bastia 3-0; Ajaccio v. Lyon 4-1; Marseille v. Nice 3-1; Sochaux v. Metz 5-2; Sedan v. Red Star 0-0; Rouen v. Reims (postponed); St. Etienne v. Nimes 1-0; Valenciennes v. Strasbourg 1-0.

**HOLLAND:** Holland Sport v. NEC 1-0; Volendam v. Telstar 1-2; DOS v. Twente 0-5; Ajax v. Feyenoord 0-1; Sittardia v. MVV 0-0; Sparta v. DWS 3-0; GVAV v. ADO 1-0; Go Ahead v. AZ '67 5-0; NAC v. PSV 2-2.

**HUNGARY:** Ferencvaros v. Dunaujvaros 3-0; Ujpest v. Diosgyor 9-0; SBTC v. Vasas 4-3; Pecs v. Honved 0-0; Csepel v. MTK 2-1; Szombathely v. Szeged 6-0; Tatabanya v. Videoton 3-0; Egyet-ertes v. Győr 2-1. **Table:** Ujpest, Ferencvaros 39, Vasas 36 pts.

**ITALY:** Atalanta v. Bologna 1-0; Fiorentina v. Sampdoria 1-0; Milan AC v. Vicenza 4-1; Pisa v. Inter Milan 1-1; AS Roma v. Cagliari 1-4; Juventus v. Torino 2-1; Varese v. Verona 1-0; Napoli v. Palermo 1-0.

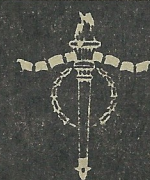
**PORTUGAL:** Belenenses v. Sporting 0-0; Benfica v. Guimaraes 0-0; Braga v. Atletico 2-1; Sanjoanense v. Leixoes 0-1; Porto v. CUF 3-0; Uniao Tomar v. Academica 2-1; Setubal v. Varzim 2-1.

**RUMANIA:** Arges Pit. v. UTA Arad 0-2; Rapid v. Steaua 2-1; ASA M. v. Univ. Craiova 2-1; Vagonul Arad v. Petrolul 3-1; Progress. Buch. v. Dynamo Buch. 1-1; Univ. Cluj v. Farul Const. 3-1; Jiul Petros. v. Crisul Oradea 1-0; Dinamo Bacau v. Polit. Iassi 1-0. **Table:** UTA 18, Uni. Craiova 15 pts.

**SPAIN:** Zaragoza v. Las Palmas 2-3; Malaga v. Pon-tivedra 2-1; Coruna v. Real Sociedad 1-7; Espanol v. Atletico Madrid 3-2; Cordoba v. Valencia 2-0; Bilbao v. Sabadell 2-1; Real Madrid v. Barcelona 2-1; Elche v. Granada 0-1.

**SWITZERLAND:** FC Basel v. Winterthur 1-1; Bellinzona v. FC Zurich 0-3; Biel v. Chaux-de-Fonds 3-2; Grasshoppers v. Lugano 1-2; Lausanne v. Lucerne 5-1; St. Gallen v. Servette Geneva 2-0; Sion v. Young Boys Berne 3-0.

**YUGOSLAVIA:** Olimpija v. Hajduk 2-1; Radnicki v. OFK Belgrade 2-0; Sarajevo v. Zagreb 4-0; Red Star Belgrade v. Partizan Belgrade 6-1; Dinamo Zagreb v. Zeljeznicar 1-0; Proleter v. Bor 0-1; Celik v. Rijeka 2-1; Vardar v. Maribor 2-1; Vojvodina v. Velez 4-1.



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## MELBOURNE PAGE...

EDITED BY BOB LOW

# Highlights of year in Victorian Soccer

● Croatia won the Ampol Cup by defeating Slavia in the final.

● John Gorton bitterly attacked the Australian Soccer Federation and called them a "ship without a rudder."

● Zoltan Markus, a member of the State League Investigation and Disciplinary Committee, died suddenly.

● Willem Schroif, known as the "Black Cat" and former Czech international 'keeper, parted company with Slavia and returned to Europe after a disagreement with a leading Slavia official.

● George Weinberg announced while he was still president of Hakoah that his club were broke and \$12,000 in the red.

● SM Hellas were fined \$100, placed on a \$1,000 bond and ordered to provide extra police at both their home and away games following a disturbance at their game with Melbourne at Middle Park. After an appeal the bond was halved.

● Victoria, after drawing with touring side Cardiff City in the first match, were given a soccer lesson and thrashed in the return game.

● John Hemmerling, who coached Slavia to their 1963 Australia Cup win and who had also been with several other State League clubs, collapsed and died suddenly.

● JUST spent a reputed \$6,000 in bringing three forwards, Buljivic, Zoraja and Mihailovich from Yugoslavia at a late stage of the season in a bid to save themselves from relegation.

● More than half the State League coaches who held their posts at the beginning of 1968 either resigned or were sacked long before the State League championship games ended.

● "Soccer News," the Melbourne-based publication folded up before the end of the State League season.

● Azzurri (West Australia) beat both South Melbourne Hellas and Juventus (Melb.) in Melbourne in the Australia Cup series.

● Croatia won the State League title, Alexander were relegated and Box Hill promoted from the First Division.

● Nick McCallum, the George Cross centre, was the top scorer in State League soccer while Ernie Ackerley of South Melbourne-Hellas claimed the same distinction in the Dockerty Cup series.

● Jimmy Rooney, the Lions inside-forward in his first season in State League soccer carried off both the players awards — Argus Medal and the Travelodge Award.

● Croatia added the Dockerty Cup to their Ampol Cup and State League title successes to become the first team to scoop the pool since the formation of the State League in 1958.

● Hakoah (Melbourne) reached the final of the 1968 Australia Cup but were decisively beaten on a 6-1 aggregate on the home and away fixture by sister club, Hakoah of Sydney.

● VSF cut back on expenditure on juniors and publicity during the season yet at their annual general meeting recorded a loss of \$15,889 over the workings of the last financial year.

● John Oliphant who had been largely instrumental in the meteoric rise of Slavia as a top State League club in the past six years resigned as chairman at their annual general meeting but continues to represent the Port Melbourne club as chief delegate to the VSF.

● Theo Marmaras re-elected as president of the VSF despite strong competition from John Van Hoboken who opposed him in a straight fight.

● Gerald Edgar, secretary of the Victorian Soccer Federation announced he was quitting early in December to take on another post.

## 'BIG FOUR' WILL RULE HUNGARIA

Big changes in the management set-up were announced following the recent AGM of Melbourne-Hungaria.

A "top four" executive has been appointed to run the club and they are: Peter Polgar, Joe Jelo, S. Kantor and M. Abay.

The new chairman of Melbourne is Tom Markus who was secretary for the past few years and he is succeeded by former secretary, Joe Szalay, lately operating as team manager.

Andy Kun who stood down as president has been made a honorary president of the club in recognition of services rendered.

Wedding bells rang last Saturday for Jim McKay, the Croatia inside forward, who signed a new contract when he married Miss Marilyn Edgecombe at St. George Church in St. Kilda.

Since the departure of Jans Bens to Holland in September much speculation has arisen as to who will be the new Ringwood City coach. I believe that though they

have plenty of applicants for the post the Ringwood side will be in no great hurry to fill the appointment.

My tip is the post will go to a newcomer from overseas or classy defender Bobby Thomson who had a sound record in professional soccer in the UK.

Three leading State League players, all with the same club, have put the cat among the pigeons in the club's plans for next season by asking for transfers.

At this stage no official statement has been issued either by the club or the players concerned confirming the transfer requests, but no outright denial has been made by either party on the subject.

The club concerned is also on the verge of making a new coaching appointment and has made a "backroom" appointment which could radically change their fortunes in the new season.

## KUN QUILTS TOP POST

Recently re-elected as a vice-president of the Victorian Soccer Federation, Andy Kun has, after three gruelling and exciting years,

### BALD KID

Despite his balding appearance, George Keith, the Hakoah, Victorian and Australian right fullback is far from being a veteran.

In fact, he has only reached the ripe old age of 23.

Scottish-born and a schoolboy international at the age of 15 against England at Wembley, he caught the eye of an Arsenal talent scout and was fixed up on a contract as an apprentice professional.

After two years with the "Gunners" he returned to Scotland and in 1961 joined Morton who were then in the Scottish Second Division and in 1964 he was transferred to Third Lanark.

Team-mates with Keith while with Third Lanark were Duncan McKay, the Croatia defender and Johnny Anderson, who played with SM Hellas, then moved to Hakoah before returning home to Scotland late this season.

Already having carved a niche for himself in Victorian and Australian soccer George Keith has plenty of time on his side to gain many more honors in the game here.

stood down as chairman of Melbourne HSC.

Born in 1906 in Debrecen, 140 miles south of Budapest, he moved to Kassa with his mother and sister following the death of his father in 1912.

In 1919 Kassa became part of Czechoslovakia, and after matriculating at one of the city's Hungarian schools in 1924, he entered the wine and spirit business.

On reaching 20 he moved to Berlin where he took up a two-year course, came back to Kassa and set himself up in business.

In Kassa he played soccer for some time until a serious knee injury forced him out of the game and for many years before coming to Australia in 1948 he held top managerial and administrative posts in soccer with Kassa AC who later changed their name to Jednota Kosice.

On arrival in Australia, he worked with General Motors, later moved into textiles.

He retired last year when he owned a business manufacturing ladies apparel.

A foundation member of Melbourne HSC, he has represented the club on the VSF since its formation.

Seeing his team win both the State League title and the Australia Cup in 1967 gave Andy Kun a tremendous thrill.

Seeing them struggle as they did this year in a desperate bid to retain their State League status must have given him the horrors.

## What's cooking?

At their recent presentation ball to celebrate winning the State League title, Ampol and Dockerty Cups in the Olympia Rooms, a packed ballroom saw Croatia dispense with a usual custom and introduce an innovation.

Instead of selecting a best and fairest player from their first team, all players received a trophy to mark their record-breaking season.

However, on behalf of club president Enver Begovic and his wife, a trophy and a \$50 scholarship award was made to Croatia's outstanding junior player, Nino Budivic.

\*\*\*

Soccer is booming down the Peninsula and especially in the Frankston area which now boasts seven senior sides and 20 junior teams. Teams and grounds are springing up everywhere and not so long back the Minister for the Army, Mr. Lynch opened a new ground at Langwarrin.

\*\*\*

Back in Melbourne after about three years in South Australia is former Juventus and Croatia wing half, Dinko Gulin. Looking bronzed and fit, Dinko is keen to get back into State League soccer and I have a notion his present club Croatia of Adelaide would not be too hard to deal with for any club wanting his transfer.

\*\*\*

A few years ago Terry Hartley was a big name in the ranks of both Hakoah and Juventus and while with the Middle Park club, represented Victoria on several occasions. Terry, who has been up in Cairns for several years is still getting a game with a Yugoslav sponsored side in that area and is working as a salesman — according to a writer colleague of mine who met him recently up north while on holiday.

\*\*\*

Martyn Harris, the former Box Hill 'keeper who was Metropolitan soccer writer for the now defunct Soccer News has joined the Hillmen committee. Now that the club are back in the State League they should at least be well off for a publicity officer with the acquisition of Harris.

\*\*\*

Hugh Murney, the Hakoah right-half who has given his club valiant service over the past four years is contemplating a quick holiday trip back to Scotland around New Year. Hugh would be back in time to line up with his club for the start of next season.



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## Opening Announcement

BY

**FRANK BOT**

(CROATIA SOCCER CLUB)

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# SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

LA FRANCE AUSTRALE, New Caledonia's leading newspaper, rated Hakoah the best touring team to visit the French island in the last two years. A front page article praises Hakoah's displays during their recent brief tour, especially the all-conquering Australians' 5-1 win over the full New Caledonian national team in their first match. Watkiss and Baartz scored two goals apiece, the fifth being an "own goal" from the former Hakoah player, Marcel Atoua, of all people! The return match with New Caledonia ended in a 0-0 draw and in their last game Hakoah defeated Yate, the New Caledonian champion side, 2-1.

Melita Eagles-Newtown signed 17-year-old TOMMY EDWARDS, son of Maltese international and Hibernian (Malta) half-back Danny Edwards. Tommy arrived from Malta with his family as migrants only three weeks ago. In Malta he played with Tarxien Rainbows.

Advertising in the right medium really pays... A recent ADVERTISEMENT in "Soccer World" by a Second Division club, seeking a senior coach has attracted 10 applications for the job.

Norcott Municipal Council is calling for tenders, closing on November 27, for the right to use ERSKINE-VILLE OVAL, Erskineville, on Sundays in the winter seasons of 1969 and 1970 "for the purpose of playing sports". Successful applicant will be able to use the ground from April 1 to August 31 in each year — both dates inclusive.

St. George's useful wing-half, TIBOR ZUCKERMAN, has recovered from the bothersome ligament injury which curtailed his 1968 season. Dr. Brian Corrigan,

medical officer to both the Australian Olympic and national soccer teams, gave him the green light to play again. Zuckerman will be among the St. George players who will start training for next season in a couple of weeks when new coach, Ferenc Arok, arrives from Yugoslavia.

"RAGS" TATTERS, Queensland State coach has left his club, Hollandia, in order to concentrate solely on the State team and help with the preparation of the national team. Tatters is also one of the chief organisers of the Coaches Federation.

Received a postcard from Pan Hellenic secretary, GEORGIU, now talent-scouting in Britain. Georgiou writes that the standard of the football he's seen to date is not up to expectations. He saw Willie Stevenson, the former Liverpool star winghalf who nearly joined APIA five years ago, in action and reckons he would have a hard job to make Pan Hellenic's first team. David Heard and Bobby Banks, the England 'keeper, also disappointed him. Georgiou is convinced we underestimate the standard of Australian soccer. Third Division Stockport, he says, would never beat any of the top five Sydney clubs.

DR. ROSSLEIGH, the former Polonia president, now with Hakoah, has cause to remember his trip to New Caledonia with his new club. While visiting a cave at the Ile des Pins, a famous tourist resort, he slipped, hit his chest against a rock and broke four ribs.

There is absolutely no truth in the rumor that ROY BLITZ is headed back for Denmark like three years ago. Blitz did sail out of Australia last weekend as a sequel to the catastrophic Pan Hellenic "non-cruise" episode, but this time it's a safe bet he'll stay put in his native England. Blitz, whose wanderlust is notorious, is most unlikely to ever return to Australia, even if he can't play legally overseas.

The planned December visit by West Germany's 1860 MUNCHEN has become very doubtful.

A meeting will take place within the next few weeks between the EXECUTIVE members of the NSW Soccer Federation and the NSW Federation of Soccer Referees to discuss certain aspects of referees duties for the coming season.

GEOFF LEE of Epping YMCA has taken over from Jack Woods as president of Gladesville-Hornsby Football Association. Woods is sure to find a niche in junior football. He has given plenty to Gladesville's cause and has helped in building up local publicity and in the running of representative teams.

APIA's hoped for link-up with the Sydney branch of FIAT Works has not materialized.

POLONIA-NORTH SIDE have formed themselves into a Soccer Club Limited.

APIA under-10 A's this year finished undefeated in winning the Northern and Western Suburbs Combined Competition, scoring 88 goals and conceding six. The same team has not been defeated in a competition match for the last three years.

Prague president, JOHN DOMABYL, is going to Europe in December.

## WITH THE AMATEURS

# STH. DISTRICTS SHOW 1000% GROWTH

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

When a determined soccer man named Fred Rayner was elected secretary of the Southern Districts Association some 15 years ago, he controlled 27 teams.

This year, on handover to the equally determined Jan Cejka, 247 teams and 3,500 registered players are on the books.

Cejka's clear message is that Southern Districts have shown in a small way that they can compete on even terms with Sydney's best districts, and this is only a preview of things to come.

## GOOD RECORD

He has had a world of soccer experience to back up his judgment, having been with Prague club, Second Division Marconi-Southern Districts, and also in the executive of the N.S.W. Amateur Association.

The S.D. Association had a good record in 1968. The under-12 representatives won the Sydney and State Championships.

Under the guidance of Hakoah and Welsh international star Trevor Edwards, the under-16s won the Sydney "minor premier-ship", and the two best players in the team toured New Zealand with the NSW Amateur side.

Next year Southern Districts hope to enter the under-14, 15 and 16 grades of the Districts Representative League.

The playing strength of such clubs as Smithfield, Green Valley, Lansvale, Fairfield Diggers and Canley Heights gives the Association much of its player potential.

The split-up of teams in the Association stands at 24 A grade, 12 16s, 10 15s, 14 14s, 20 13s, 26 12s, 28 11s, 32 10s, 32 9s, 27 8s and 22 7s.

## '68 WINNERS

The 1968 winners were:  
A1: Lansvale.  
Alliance: Ulster.  
A2: Fairfield Diggers.  
16: Liverpool Robins A.  
15s: Marconi.  
14/1: Smithfield.  
14/2: Fairfield Diggers.  
13/1: Cabramatta Rovers.  
13/2: Cabramatta Rovers.  
12/1: Marconi.  
12/2: Fairfield Heights.  
12/3: Fairfield Police Boys.

11/1: Green Valley.  
11/2: Fairfield Diggers.  
11/3: Kirkham Rangers.  
10/1: Valley Eagles.  
10/2: Fairfield Heights.  
10/3: John Edmondson V.C.  
10/4: Fairfield Police Boys.

9/1: Green Valley.  
9/2: Fairfield Diggers.  
9/3: Mt. Busby.  
9/4: Fairfield Police Boys.

8/1: Liverpool Robins.  
8/2: Mt. Busby.  
8/3: Mt. Pritchard.  
7 North: Smithfield.  
7 South: Green Valley.  
7 West: Green Valley.  
6/1: Smithfield.  
6/2: Busby Sports A.

## EASTS STILL HAVE PROBLEMS

It took another year to show Eastern Suburbs a vital fundamental in the conduct of junior soccer.

Easts had mainly again hitched their star to the junior units of senior clubs, instead of patiently building the suburban and local organisation clubs which are the winners elsewhere.

When the star fell there was little left to do but pick up the pieces and start again.

That is what is happening, and 1969 will not dawn without hope.

Easts have elected an M.C. which is a combination of a few experienced hands and a number of new faces.

Harry Gully, one of the initiators of the Maroubra club, is at the helm as president of the Association.

His address is 1/39 Portland Crescent Maroubra. Phone contact at present is secretary Drew Robinson on 32-7792.

One worthwhile plan which is sure to emerge from the present discussions is the better blending with the potentially fertile South Sydney area — a course of action that has been long advocated in this paper.

Contention may arise from a complete change of name to South Sydney, and if so, delegates may have to examine whether Easts-South Sydney will have to be used.

South Sydney, the Inter-Suburban First Division club, has aspirations to get ahead, and is right on the spot to assist junior development in the calling of meetings to start new suburb clubs.

Some recently formed schoolboy teams have become fully fledged clubs, and the strength of the Association.

Queens Park Eagles and Queens Park clubs did particularly well during the year.

The former excelled in bringing eight teams from Grange Thistle junior club in Brisbane for matches at the end of the season.

The under-15 team reached the District Representative final against Bankstown, under the guidance of Bill Vrolyks, and Maroubra won the club championship Ernie Hilmer Trophy for the first time.

At this stage all will wish the Association a bigger 1969 season.

Everything will depend upon the groundwork that the new committee puts into the formation of new suburb clubs.

Because, without a realistic, back-breaking junior club formation program, the Association can only remain in its present undeveloped state.

## Second Division reviewed

# Granville are due for major revival

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

Granville-Parramatta Soccer Club's seventh position in the competition could only be looked at as a failure even if it did not surprise anybody within or outside the club.

After coming so close in the previous season to winning promotion, the club seemed to have lost interest and the morale sank so low that even in that year's semifinals they failed to register one win despite a second place on the table in 1967.

The beginning of this new season did very little in a way of encouragement and the club took too long to pick up the pieces and reorganise itself to the level of previous years.

Drastic changes were made in the administration which, however, had very little support.

## DISCARDS

Continuous changes in the team brought many repercussions and at one time led to the appointment of Bobby Wall, the coach, as sole selector.

However, this was short-lived and again assistants were appointed and the discarded "old" players, who were definitely out early in the season, were recalled to bolster the club's sinking fortunes.

The talented youths who were depended upon in the beginning were back in the reserves and only made a few brief appearances towards the end despite the fact that four of them made the NSW under-18 side which toured New Caledonia.

These promising youngsters, like Du Pont, Burtenshaw, Geoff Shepherd, the

Williams brothers and others need more experience before they can make their presence really felt and during the season only Adolf Tamandl showed the polish and technique which has won Granville so many honors over the years.

Team weaknesses in both defence and the forwards left much to be desired even though on occasions the side seemed to click momentarily.

The team badly missed its schemer of the previous year, Mal O'Neill in the forwards while at the other end it was badly in need of a steady goalkeeper.

Figures speak for themselves. While the team managed to score 46 goals, which is many goals better than the two teams ahead of it, the side conceded 53 — nine in one match against Bankstown.

Granville also lost two valuable points against lowly Lane Cove who were relegated at the end of the season.

Nevertheless, the club's fortunes were boosted towards the end of the season, not so much on the field but with the prospect of ending once and forever its financial troubles.

After years of court proceedings with soaring and sinking hopes, the club won an appeal and obtained a liquor licence.

This may prove to be the impetus the club and the area it represents needed for a long time and there's no doubt that plans put in

motion since show every sign that soccer interest in the district will be revived and could flourish.

It is almost certain that a new clubhouse on the southern side of Macarthur Park will be completed by the start of the 1969 competition.

## FACELIFT

Improvements already completed, together with others projected will make Macarthur Park one of the best soccer stadiums in Sydney.

The facelift at the ground includes new seating facilities, a modern set of floodlights imported from England to make the field suitable for night soccer, a new entrance and canteen building to match the already complete cream brick and chain wire fence and improvement to the surface of the field with top dressing and grassing.

With the prospect of more finance, it is almost certain that Granville will engage a top coach for the senior team for next season and other coaches for other grades and the juniors.

Although no definite plans were announced as to the strength of Granville in 1969, it is certain that changes will be made all-round and the team that takes the field will be a better proposition than the one we saw during the season just concluded.



# FLOTTA

# LAURA